

The Soccer News

Journal devoted to the interests of Soccer Football, and containing the only authorised
Programme of Matches

4; No. 22.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1925.

Price Twopence.



Look Your Best—Always

The man who does not take a certain amount of pride in his personal appearance is indeed "unwept, unhonored, and unsung."

To dress well, and cheaply, sounds like a contradiction—but Mick Simmons' Mercery values prove that it can easily be done. Take these, for instance:—

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NAVY BLUE BLAZERS, Corded with Sky, White, Gold and Red	25/-
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CREAM FUJI SILK SPORTS AND TENNIS SHIRTS	21/-
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FINE MATTE SPORTS SHIRTS	7/6
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£50 REWARD

The Metropolitan Soccer Football Association offers a reward of fifty pounds (£50) for information leading to the conviction of the person or persons responsible for the theft of £185 from the Finance Room of the Show Ground on Saturday, July 18th, and the recovery of the amount stated. Persons willing to help the Management Committee are asked to communicate with Mr. S. H. Stack, Hon. Secretary, M.S.F.A. 'Phone Nos.: L 1918; Manly 512.

MURRUMBIDGEE SOCCER ASSOCIATION.

Bacon Cup.

Last Sunday's Results

Leeton v Lake View 7—0.

Griffith v Yenda 6—0.

Murrumbidgee v Barellan 5—1.

Griffith having played all rounds of the competition, having a 5 point lead from Leeton (who has two matches to play) cannot lose the competition. The Management Committee have therefore declared Griffith the winners and awarded them the Bacon Cup for the ensuing 12 months, and have cancelled the remaining rounds of the competition.

The knock-out competition commences on Sunday, the 29th August, the following being the draw:—

First Round.

Yenda v Leeton.

Barellan v Lake View.

Griffith and Murrumbidgee the winners.

Second Round.

Murrumbidgee v Yenda or Leeton.

Barellan or Lake View v Griffith.

Matches to be played on the Show Ground, the following being the ground of the first-match team.

Final.

To be played on a neutral ground under a neutral referee.

L. M. RAY.

Sec. Murrumbidgee Soccer Association.

Are You Too?

A sedentary life frequently leads to excessive abdominal flabbiness. This commonly occurs in the early forties, and if unchecked, results in impaired health and consequently mental symptoms of this condition are lassitude and mental drowsiness. The Langridge system of physical culture aims at restoring the general tone, strengthening the abdominal muscles and working off the surplus. This is accomplished by a series of graduated exercises and massage, supervised by experienced experts.

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The Soccer News

4; No. 22.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1925.

Price Twopence.

Milestones of Football

Mr. John M'Kenna on the Tone of Present-day Play.

By John M'Kenna, League President.

Survey the milestones of football is a tremendous task. Indeed, it is only reviews and reflects on the extension and progress of the game that its gigantic strides can be measured.

Football cannot be measured, for, to the missionary work of the game—through the Football League—the game has come to the world-wide in its appeal, so that countries enter for the Football Games football tournament. The winners come all the way from Uruguay, English teams from Canada, South Africa, and Australia, China sends a team to the Antipodes, and Spain sends a team to wonder whether bull-fighting is worth while.

A Revelation.

One great feature of Association football—the spread of the game. Then there is its popularity in this country.

Years have brought a revelation. In 1871, the F.A. Cup came into existence. There were twelve competitors and perhaps a few hundred spectators at the games. Now the Final has just been played and the records indicate an attendance of 126,047 spectators—Wembley, 1923. There were 150,000 people at the Stadium, and more than disappointed folk outside. The story of the Football League is the same. In 1888, it had a single group of 22, and the circle was expanding from Ashington to Cardiff to Grimsby, to Barrow, is now in the full sense of the

Football has a wonderful fascination. It has taken the country in its grip, and its most striking advance has been made since the war. It was the great game of the Armies during Armageddon, and the result, in peace, was a surging wave of sport that brought football to high tide.

Tone and Tactics.

For the war, of course, there was a penalty to pay. Great players gave their all and they

have been difficult to replace. The extension of The League has also helped to reduce the standard of play. Where there were 60 League clubs in England needing the best players they could secure in 1914, now there are 88. The talent is more extensively divided. Young players appear in The League who would not have come to this prominence in pre-war days. Since the war six seasons have gone without recovery of the old standard of play. That is a matter to which the clubs should give their closest attention—the players, too.

The young player of 1925 is all too ready to believe that because he wears the colours of a famous club he is already a famous player. He is ready to learn in the reserve team, but less inclined to accept advice after promotion. Experience teaches that his lessons are really only about to begin.

If the quality of play is less impressive, however, all associated with the game have cause to be proud of its tone. The competitive spirit has grown with The League, and the atmosphere at the football grounds of the country is often tense. Forty, fifty, sixty thousand people hang on every movement of the ball and cheer this side or the other. Under the circumstances, we have reason to be gratified with the good tone of play. Despite the increase in rivalry and tension, and the striking equality of play, the spirit of the players has improved.

The present spirit of play is due, in part, to the attitude of clubs, and to the fact that directors and officials of clubs are men of position and standing. Tradition and reputation is valued

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as well as the result, and this, of course, is the true route to healthy progress.

Holding the Scales.

Football has bounded ahead because the boys just take to it naturally and, in the professional game, because it has kept faith with the public. The League has insisted on punctuality, on the full strength of clubs being placed in the field, on justice between club and player, and club and club. "The clubs forming The League shall support each other," the first set of rules laid down. That lead has been followed, and the rights of the player have been protected. Let me say here that when he is not offered terms for re-engagement—an action denoting that his aid is not required—he should be given a free transfer. He should not be hindered in getting another engagement.

As to the bonus—sometimes criticised—I hold it to be advisable because it is a safeguard against go-as-you-please play toward the end of the season, when the result to one club may be of small consequence yet of great concern not merely to their opponents but to other teams struggling for promotion or against relegation.

A Successful Season.

The season just ended has brought a revival after the slump effects that followed the post-war boom. It will prove to be better, financially, than any of the past two or three years.

Especially is this the case in the Second Division, among which clubs Manchester United enjoyed an exceptionally prosperous campaign. The League, too, has now a nest-egg of £14,000, and we know that it was able during the war period to give the F.A. a helping hand to the extent of £1000—an incident that is one of the happiest of my football experiences.

For these various reasons football is flourishing, and its future seems assured. The excellent relationships existing between the Football Association and the Football League are a sure source of strength and safeguard of the future. The suggestions that have been heard that The League sought power for some ulterior purpose—an insane idea—have vanished.

The relations between the two bodies have never been better—

if so good—and the game can look to the years ahead with cheerful confidence.

"Athletic News."

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

T. P. Connors, Eveleigh:—

Law 8: The goalkeeper may within his own penalty area use his hands, but shall not carry the ball.

The definition of carrying is—carrying by the goalkeeper is taking more than two steps while holding the ball, or bouncing it on his hand.

For a breach of this rule by a goalkeeper, a free kick shall be awarded from the place where the infringement occurred, and a goal shall not be scored until the ball has been played by a second player.

NEXT SATURDAY'S FIXTURES.

The Metropolitan Management Committee has decided definitely that the final between Granville and Gladesville-Ryde for the Metropolitan Premiership, will be played at the Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2, at 3.15 next Saturday. The early match will be the Lincoln Cup Semi-final between Gladesville-Ryde and Granville or Pyrmont.

CRONIN CUP.

The M.C. of the M.S.F.A. has decided to agree to the playing of the Cronin Cup competition, and all District Club Secretaries are asked to communicate with Mr. Stack, and intimate whether they desire to enter the competition. A gold set of medals will be presented to the winners who will hold the Cronin Cup for the season. All matches will be played on Ibrox Park, and the financial conditions under which the matches will be played are as follows:—

1. The Ibrox Park Trust to take 40 per cent. of the gross gate to cover advertising, ground rent, and marking out of ground.

2. The Referees and Linesmen's expenses to be paid out of remainder, which will then be divided equally between the Association and the two competing clubs.

ENGLISH PLAYERS A STRIKE THREAT

Exciting Incident.

The Football Associationists very quickly had an intimation of an unexpected turn in finishing their journey in Australia, says Mr. John Lewis in charge of the party, in a letter to "The Athletic News."

"We found the members of the Barmen and Barmaids' Union on strike in Perth, and, while they were quartered at the Kingsward Hotel, the strikers threatened me if I would take the team. I told them we should do our best to assist the proprietors."

Prepared to Act.

According to an Australian newspaper, a rabble of about 500 men, accompanied by one who had surged up the front entrance, seemed about to enter, when they were met on the top step by the proprietor of the hotel, Mr. Bannan, who whipped a stick from his hip pocket and drove it at the mob. "Don't come further," he said, and the mob fell back to a more respectable distance.

It was as well for them that they decided to make the better part of valour, and behind Mr. Bannan were ranks of visiting English footballers, as Mr. Bannan said later, "quite prepared to act if necessity arose."

The players, says Mr. Bannan, were not long ashore ere they made to feel completely at home. One thing the party greatly appreciated was a drive through fruit country—and a test of grapes.

My great regret in sports efforts to keep alive the tradition of amateurism in Association football are breaking down before the attack of commercialism and unbalanced competition to the game has been subjected to the public School and University may not be such a highly developed and systematic game, but it develops great initiative and bearing. Its value was a great factor in the success of the British Armies.—G. N. Corinthians and Kent C.C.

PREMIERSHIP FINAL

GRANVILLE v. GLADESVILLE-RYDE

at

Sydney Cricket Ground, No. 2

NEXT SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Gladesville-Ryde, last team in, under the District Scheme, hold the famous Granville Combination?

Tickets:—Ground, 1/-; Stand, 1/- Extra. Children, 3d, and 3d Extra.

OFFSIDE QUERY

To the Editor.

THE GARDINER CUP WINNERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—

In a recent issue you publish a list of the Gardiner Cup winners, and ask for information regarding the years 1903-4. I am glad to be able to give you the same, and also correct two additional errors in your printed list:

1903, Pyrmont beat Glebe 4—2
1904, Granville beat Glebe 2—1.

In 1902 Pyrmont Rovers were the winners, beating West Wallsend 3—1, and not Granville, as in your list.

In 1922 Granville beat West Wallsend 1—0.

In 1923 West Wallsend beat Sydney 1—0 (after two drawn games, 0—0 and 4—4).

In your list you have the winners reversed in these years.

Yours sincerely,

STANLEY T. HALLETT.

(Mr. Hallett evidently has a fine lot of records, and we thank him for the corrections. We received also the information desired regarding the winners in 1903 and 1904 from Mr. James F. Black, Asst. Hon. Sec. of the M.S.F.A.—Ed.)

NEW KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION.

The new knock-out competition in which Metropolitan Clubs and Balgownie and Corrimal will participate, is in full swing to-day. For the benefit of readers the draw is again appended:—

First Round.

Gladesville-Ryde v Balmain.

Corrimal v Canterbury.

Remaining teams, byes.

Second Round.

1—Canterbury or Corrimal v Balgownie.

2—Balmain or Gladesville-Ryde v Annandale-Leichhardt.

3—St. George v Eastern Suburbs.

4—Granville v Pyrmont.

Semi-Finals

2 v 3

1 v 4

Matches and venues to be arranged by Metropolitan Management Committee.

Tenders Wanted

FOR 6 SETS OF MEDALS.

TENDERS are herewith invited for 6 Sets of Gold Medals, weight from 8 dwt. to 12 dwt. Tenderers to submit design, with price and weight.

S. STACK,

Hon. Sec. M.S.F.A.,
Sports Club, Sydney.

A. LITTLE.

is undoubtedly off-
another part of this
will be found the full
present off-side law,
decisions, instructions
and players.—Ed.)

TOOTH'S K.B. LAGER

Mildly stimulating,
wholesome and re-
freshing--that's why
Tooth's K. B. holds
pride of position in the
field of Lagers to-day.
When you want the
best that's brewed--
don't say Lager--ask
for Tooth's K.B.

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For Best English

SOCCER FOOTBALL JERSEYS,
PANTS, STOCKINGS, Etc.,

Go to Considine's.

Jerseys—80/- per doz.

Stockings—47/- per doz.

Pants—5/6 a pair.

White Soccer Boots—17/6 pair.

English Soccer Balls—27/6,

29/6, 32/6, 33/6, and 35/-.

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320 George Street,
SYDNEY.
(Near Paling's).

Coates' Plymouth

Programme

METROPOLITAN-ILLAWARRA KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION

BALMAIN v. GLADESVILLE-RYDE.

AT EASTON PARK ——— 3.15 P.M.

BALMAIN

(Black and Gold Stripes)

H. Simmons

1—R. Leadbetter 2—F. Hancock

3—J. Fisher 4—G. Storey 5—W. Byers

6—F. Baxter 7—J. Sinclair 9—J. Cameron 10—H. [unclear]

8—C. Brennan or 11—F. Ramsay

O

7—F. Wright

10—H. Robertson 9—N. Henson 8—G. Macfarlan 24—

3—H. Spurway 4—W. Maizey 12—J. De [unclear]

2—E. Pont 1—S. Montgomery

F. Anderson

GLADESVILLE-RYDE.

(Maroon)

Reserves—Balmain: 12—L. Parker; 13—S. Jelfs.

Referee: A. W. Bates.

Linesmen: Messrs. Battin and Hopper.

LINCOLN CUP ——— 1.45 P.M.

BALMAIN v. CANTERBURY

SECOND GRADE ——— 1.45 P.M.

BALMAIN

W. Hughes

22—W. Cunningham 17—S. Jelfs

15—W. Ferguson 16—J. Jelfs 14—R. White

23—L. Parker 24—N. White 12—W. Buttel 23—H. [unclear]

21—W. Orr

O

20—Gould

22—A. Lang 21—Watson 19—L. Cook 18—

17—Whitehead 16—Marshall 15—Stannard

14—A. Clark 13—James

Little

CANTERBURY

(Blue and Gold)

Referee: J. Doidge.

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Sole Agents, Sydney.

Programme

FIRST GRADE.

CANTERBURY v. ST. GEORGE

AT CANTERBURY SPORTS GROUND — 3.15 P.M.

CANTERBURY
(Blue and Gold)

T. Bailey

1—E. McLaren

2—F. Clark

3—E. Loveridge

4—R. Robinson

5—Tyson

Burns

7—W. Howard

9—C. Platt

10—W. Cook

8—Bennett

O

7—C. Hayes

Melliar-Smith 20—R. Woods 8—H. Burns 6—A. Lavender

3—J. Picken

4—J. Tranter

3—R. Chiswell

2—G. Smart

12—T. Smart

L. Evans

ST. GEORGE

(Red and White Stripes)

—St. George: 21—A. Burchett; 26—L. Davie.

Referee: J. Lester.

Linesmen: Messrs. Cockwell and Smith.

City 10624.

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RICARDO CORTEZ

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Special Starring Engagement.

"The Hilo-Duo"

Late of world tour of Sir Harry Lauder Company, and the Tivoli.

Musical programme by Hoyt's Imperial Orchestra under the baton of Lionel Hart.

Ring City 6218 for Reserves—
No extra charge.



ONE

WOLFES

PR

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

EASTERN SUBURBS v. KURRI KURRI

AT SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND No. 2 — 3.15 P.M.

KURRI KURRI

(Green)

Goal:

G. Goodwin

1—J. Beddow

2—W. Stewart

3—S. Kidd

4—W. McNab

5—R. Bower

6—R. Wells

7—J. Stewart

9—M. Price

10—W. Wells

8—T. Green

O

8—J. Smith

10—R. C. Maitland

9—S. Peel

7—C. O'Connor

5—A. Bennie

4—Wilkins

3—Baker

2—Pozdelik

1—A. Rigby

Manson

Goal:

EASTERN SUBURBS
(Red, Blue and White)

Reserves—Eastern Suburbs: 11—Thomson; 12—Ballantyne
Briggs.

Reserves—Kurri Kurri: 11—M. Allen; 12—S. Bagnall

Referee: W. Wright.

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OME

SUNLIGHT CUP — SEMI-FINAL.
SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND No. 2.

AUBURN x. ALEXANDRIA — 1.45 P.M.

(Teams not available at Press)

Referee: G. McGrath.

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- England v. Metropolis at Sydney.
- England v. Illawarra, at Wollongong.
- England v. Northern Districts, at Newcastle.
- 1st Test Match at Brisbane.
- 2nd Test Match at Sydney.

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Programme

METROPOLITAN-ILLAWARRA KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION.

CORRIMAL v. BALGOWNIE
AT CORRIMAL — 3.15 P.M.

CORRIMAL
(Red and White)
J. Jardine

1—A. Druery 2—R. Critcher
3—A. Kerr 4—H. Graham 5—A. Rhodes
6—O. Lewis 7—J. Suddick 9—W. Young 10—W. Kerr
8—C. Jones
O
8—J. Masters
10—F. Learcombe 9—J. Scarlet 7—D. Ward 6—A. McMahon
5—H. Johnstone 4—G. Scadding 3—W. Johnstone
2—J. Parker 1—P. Hunter

H. Masters

BALGOWNIE

(Black and White)

Reserves—Balgownie: 11—W. Adie.

Reserves—Corrimal: 11—W. Harrigan.

Referee: C. R. Brown.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

ANNANDALE-LEICHHARDT v. WALLSEND.
AT TRAMWAY GROUND — NEWCASTLE.

ANNANDALE-LEICHHARDT

(Black)

G. Cartwright

1—W. Simms 2—J. Crum
3—A. Owen 4—D. Downing 5—F. Lambert
6—J. Gigg 7—W. Park 9—G. Turner 10—R. Osborne
8—L. Brisbane
O

(Teams not available at Press)

WALLSEND.

Reserves—Annandale-Leichhardt: 11—A. Crum; 12—S. Quinn.

Referee: Mr. Nicholson.

BROKEN TIME AGAIN.

Where United Kingdom and
Europe May Part.

From "Athletic News," 8/6/25.

The following is very interesting from an Australian viewpoint on account of Mr. John Lewis' criticism of our payments to players of compensation for loss of wages.

News as to what happened at Prague at the annual Congress of the International Federation filters through very slowly.

This, however, is the substance of the statement of one Continental publication:—

"The Federation considered the question of an amateur definition, especially in relation to what is

known as 'broken time,' and it was decided that a player who receives payment of a sum not exceeding the amount lost from employment does not infringe his amateur status."

The report awaits confirmation, but if it accurately represents what the Congress decided it legalises a practice that has long been general on the Continent, but against which the United Kingdom Associations have strenuously fought for many decades.

The logical outcome of such a position will be general payments to amateur players. If the report is correct, the decision has brought about a condition of things that must compel the United Kingdom Associations to consider whether they can continue their connection with the Federation.

THE OFF-SIDE

Text of Law

When a player plays any player of the same team at such moment of play nearer to his opponent than the ball himself, nor whatever interfere with the play, or with the ball has been again played there are at such moment at least three of his nearer their own goal player is not out of the ball is kicked off the field when a corner-kick is taken, when the ball is last played by an opponent when he himself is within half of the field of play at the moment the ball is played by a player of the same side.

Official Decision

It is not a breach of the law for a player to be in an off-side position, but only when at such position he interferes with the play, or with the opponent, or with the player who is in an off-side position advances towards the goal, or the ball, and causes the play to be stopped. A player should be penalised.

International Board, 14th June 1925.
If a player deliberately infringes the law by standing in an off-side position within the penalty area, and who attempts to play the ball with his hand, a penalty kick should be awarded. A flag may be placed on the half-way line on each side of the field of play, but it must be at least one yard from the line, and on a staff not less than 5 feet high. (International Law.)

Instructions to Referee

A player who is in an off-side position at the moment the ball is last played by a player of the same team is out of play.

The point to notice is when a player is when he plays the ball, but where he was at the moment it was played by a player of the same side. In the rush of the game a referee is apt to lose sight of the positions of the players at the moment a kick is taken, yet he ought to change on his mind.

with or behind the ball is played he cannot pass off-side, but if he is in it he is liable to be so. A player cannot be off-side if an opponent last plays the ball, or when a corner-kick, a throw-in from touch, or a goal is taken, this protection ceases at the moment a second player touches the ball, so that a player not in position when such a throw-in is taken, may, having moved, be liable as the ball has been next to one of his own side. A player following up another of his who has the ball cannot be off-side. Players may be off-side when a free kick or penalty is taken. An opponent playing the ball puts a player on-side. While in an off-side position a player must not interfere in any way with an opponent during the play.

A player is in an off-side position but is not interfering during the play, he must not be

The International Board have explained that a player, who is in an off-side position, is bound to get out of the way of the ball and that he is liable to be off-side if in any manner his presence causes any interference during the play.

When the ball is kicked off for either goal no player is off-

Instructions to Players.

A player who is in his own half of the field of play at the moment the ball is last played by an opponent is not off-side.

A player once off-side cannot become on-side. This can only be done for him in three ways—

(1) If an opponent next touches the ball; (2) If he is behind the ball when it is next touched by one of his own side; (3) If he has 3 opponents between him and their goal line when the ball is played by one of his own side further from his opponent's goal than himself.

A ball hitting the goal-post or rebounding does not put a player on-side who was off-side when the ball was last played.

Players are aware that when the ball is played by one of your own side and when he is taking a goal corner kick, or a throw-in, you have three opponents between you and their goal-line or you are in a line with or

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11/9

Jerseys in the approved style, of pure Australian wool. They are of a quality that wears for years. All club colours. Exceptional value at 11/9

Strong Cotton Jerseys, 10/-

Extra-heavy cotton Jerseys; will wear surprisingly well. Price, each 10/-

Sizes for all figures.

FARMER'S

Pitt, Market & George Streets.

"THE STORE FOR MEN."

behind the ball. Can anything be more simple? If your opponent plays the ball, or the ball touches him in any way, you are on-side no matter where you stand, but when standing in an off-side position you have no right to interfere with an opponent nor to station yourself so near the goal-keeper, or any other opponent, as to hamper his movements, or obstruct his sight of the ball. When a player finds he is in an off-side position it is his duty to keep clear of the play and neither interfere with nor inconvenience an opponent, nor make a pretence of doing so.

Note.—The provision of flags opposite the half-way line is optional. The object is to assist the referee and linesmen to determine the position of the half-way line when they are at a distance or when the line has become indistinct.

(This is the law which operates this season. Everybody should note the alteration to Law 6 which has been made by the International Board, and which will come into force in Australia next year. —Ed.).

WHAT THE ENGLISH LEADERS THINK.

Through the years Association has remained the same manly game. Its spirit is reflected today in the love of fair play and genuine enthusiasm for skill and self-restraint.—Thomas White, Chairman, Scottish F.A.

Let us look forward. Scotch off-side fooling and reduce whistle-blowing to a minimum. Let referees be stern and self-reliant, wipe out foul play, cease to lean on linesmen, and make the penalty fit the crime without being harsh and tyrannical. Players must respect the laws of the game and scorn to break them. Then we shall progress in the fine arts of football, and, with tempers controlled, our game will be not merely a national asset but a national virtue.—C. E. Sutcliffe, F.A. and Football League.

Strive for the sporting spirit first and last, and the hold of the game on the masses and the classes will be retained.—Captain J. M. Wilton, President Irish F.A.

SPORTING LADY COMPETITION.

Soccerite's Success in Manly.

Manly supporters of the round ball code have every reason to be very proud of themselves at the present time, for their nominee, Mrs. E. W. Quirk, the wife of Alderman Quirk, of Manly, was successful in winning the "Most Popular Manly Sporting Lady

The Manly Junior Soccer Association—the youngest sporting organisation in Manly, and its ex-President, Mr. A. J. Humphreys, deserves great credit for the success which they have gained, having won the two prizes which were awarded by the Sporting Union to the successful parties. Mrs. Quirk will receive a trophy valued at 10 guineas, while the Manly Junior Soccer Association will be presented with a Cup for competition in perpetuity, under conditions to be agreed by the



MRS. E. W. QUIRK.

Soccer's Nominee and Winner of
"Most Popular Manly Sporting
Lady Competition."

Competition," with 18,168 votes, as against 11,775 votes gained by the next highest candidate.

The competition was promoted by the Manly Sporting Union, the object being to gain funds, to build a Sports Club in Manly, and there were originally eight nominations, of which three withdrew.

The competition was in full swing from March to the end of July, and approximately £200 has been received by the Sporting Union as a result.

Association and the Sporting Union. The Cup will be named after the organiser on behalf of the Association—Mr. Humphries—at the suggestion of the Union—and the trophies will be presented on Marathon Day, at the Athletic Club's Sports Meeting at Manly, on the 12th September.

Mr. Humphries is an ex-referee of the Sydney Referees' Association, and was a member of the Metropolitan Management Committee in 1917 and 1918.

ALL GAMES GOOD

Association Football Most Popular.

In my opinion Association ball interests more people in the world than any form of game, says Tityrus, in the "Soccer News," unless it be the game of thoroughbred horses for sale. It is impossible to forget the Derby, the Melbourne Cup, and the historic races. The Turf is ably stands unchallenged in its supremacy. But that is another issue.

Why argue about the merits of the character of these different games? Would the eleven best baseball players make mincemeat of the best cricketers in a cricket match? It may be that Babe Ruth with his bat would score thousands of runs in the darkness did not intervene. It may be that baseballers are better fielders and throwers than English cricketers.

Babe Ruth is used to a baseball being so superior to another. Would he fare up against a football that swerves in its flight and twists after contact with the earth? The thousands of "fans" claim as his haul would dwindle to a single figure, and a nine at that.

Folks do not realise that football is a complicated art. Eleven men are always against one person with a wooden ball which must not be more than six inches in width.

All this talk about football being so superior to another game is a farrago of nonsense. Every form of recreation gives lives for years and years. Football requires high skill, courage, endurance, tactics, and is well worth playing. Games of different nations in accordance with the characteristics of the nation. Cricket is too stately and slow (if it pleases) for the American, and baseball is too sensational and swift for the Englishman.

Pelota as played by the Basques is magnificent. Rugby is as much as golf and cricket to others. Every game worth playing casts its own spell. There is no sense in decrying another man's sport. Some folks say, "What of it—if it pleases them." Let us be charitable and

Metropolitan Junior Association

Last Week's Comments.

Number of important matches decided last Saturday, with the City team leading on the destination of the Premiership, and a third place was advanced a further stage. City and Leichhardt both level in the All Age competition. The City team defeated Leichhardt by 4 to 3 after a strenuously contested game. A couple of games remain undecided, but it is thought City will be the leaders at the end of the season.

In the A Grade competition, City (Premiers 1924 and runners-up 1925), met Easton Park at Primrose Park. Prior to the game, Easton Park were 2 points ahead, and had to secure a win to have a chance in the competition. The game was well contested throughout, with perhaps City favouring the Park team. In the first 15 minutes they had some of their own way, and Leichhardt was not to score. Prior to the game Sinclair netted for City, but the goal was disallowed as Menzies was adjudged to have fouled the Park goal-keeper. The second half was more contested, the ball travelled all over the field in and down the field in both halves. Goalies brought off brilliant saves; McCarthy had a good opportunity for a goal, but Chiswick from the City side missed the chance. With 10 minutes to go the Park team pressed very hard, and kept City on their toes. Robinson and Jenkins made a move, when just on time City brought off a marvellous goal by a shot by Froome, after which a kick had been taken. City ended a scoreless draw, leaving Lilyfield 2 points in the lead and winners of the A Grade competition for the second year.

In the B Grade Banksmeadow were the leaders (Lilyfield) down to a scoreless draw, and as this was the last competition match of the season, they have won the B Grade competition.

Charity Cup.

City v Lilyfield B, Algie Park, 1.45.

Plymouth Rovers v Newtown Jnrs., Algie Park, 3.15.

City United v Lilyfield A. Cooks River, 3.15.

Leichhardt Jnrs. v Five Dock, Primrose Park No. 1, 3.15.

C Grade, Photo Competition.

Division 1.

Rozelle Waratahs v Balmain Gladstones, Primrose Park No. 2, 2 p.m.

Wentworth Juniors the bye.

Division 2.

Erskineville Rangers v Annandale Athletic, Primrose Park, 3.15.

Leichhardt Jnrs. v Lilyfield, Cooks River, 2 p.m.

Annandale Waratahs the bye.

C Grade, Division 2—Final.

Botany Recs. v Alexandria, Primrose Park, 2 p.m.

A GRADE

	P	W	L	D	B	F	A	Pts
Lilyfield	12	10	—	2	2	53	13	22
Easton Pk.	12	9	1	2	2	26	5	20
Newtown Jrs.	12	7	2	3	2	16	10	17
Alexandria Juniors	12	5	7	—	2	20	35	10
Sunlight	12	4	8	—	2	7	37	8
Leichhardt Juniors	12	2	10	—	2	17	30	4
Balmain St. Mary's	12	—	11	1	2	9	18	1

B GRADE

	P	W	L	D	B	F	A	Pts
Lilyfield	12	10	1	1	2	39	10	21
Rozelle Waratahs	12	10	2	—	2	32	9	20
Banksmeadow	12	7	3	2	2	22	20	16
Annandale Federals	12	4	6	2	2	17	21	10
*Warren Av.	11	3	5	3	2	13	22	9
Punch Park	12	1	9	2	2	4	6	4
*Leichhardt Juniors	11	1	10	—	2	9	48	2

*Denotes 1 match to play.

C GRADE, DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	D	B	F	A	Pts
Wentworth Juniors	12	11	—	1	2	30	11	23
Rozelle Waratahs	12	7	3	2	2	25	8	16
Lilyfield	12	5	3	4	2	25	12	14
Annandale Waratahs	12	6	4	2	2	24	15	14
Leichhardt Juniors	12	3	6	3	2	11	31	9
Balmain Gladstones	12	2	7	3	2	10	27	7
Five Dock	12	—	11	1	2	—	23	1

C GRADE, DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	D	B	F	A	Pts
Alexandria	14	12	1	1	—	55	8	25
Botany Rechabites	14	12	1	1	—	36	8	25
Erskineville Rangers	14	9	5	—	—	24	12	18
Annandale Athletic	14	5	9	—	—	13	29	10
Glebe Jnrs.	14	2	11	1	—	8	36	5
Stanmore United	14	—	13	1	—	3	36	1

FOOTBALL AND MISCHIEF

When trouble was brewing in a large mining area in Wales and Bolshevism was rampant, a mine magnate strongly appealed to me to let the men have plenty of football—to keep their minds off a strike and to keep the mischief-maker away. What better testimonial to the game of the classes and masses than this request?—T. Robbins, Sec., F.A. of Wales.

Each year Association football becomes more popular. This must necessarily be so with an enormous increase of boys playing in the schools and the growing population becoming more interested. Also, we are continuing our sports more as we get older. Football is a great outdoor entertainment of the people, and in that way its progress is an asset to the country.—F. J. Wall, Secretary, F.A.

I believe the proposed two-for-three off-side alteration would brighten the game. The people want goals and they would probably get more—at both ends. Could we not play Internationals with the best of the Continental countries? The game has done so much for this nation that it should be able to do something for the world.—Alan Morton, Rangers and Scotland.

Gladesville-Ryde impressed greatly at Ibrox Park, against Annandale-Leichhardt, and the maroons should defeat Granville at the Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2 next Saturday.

This match will decide the competition, for Gladesville-Ryde have a double chance of annexing the Premiership. A draw would give them 23 points, while Granville would be runners-up with 22 points. The positions would be reversed if Granville won, and Gladesville-Ryde would, of course, win by the handsome margin of 3 points, if they should defeat their redoubtable opponents.

The off-side and penalty kick laws can be improved.—John K. M'Dowall, Secretary, Scottish F.A.

Protestant Churches Association

Holy Trinity A now appear to be in an unassailable position, but it is very disappointing to see the remaining clubs throwing up the sponge.

* * *
To date St. Johns A, Austens (both premiers of previous seasons), and Alex. Missions A have dropped out.

* * *
To-day will be seen three great struggles. At Hurlstone Park Lakemba Congs. A and Hurlstone Congs. will meet under Mr. Ref. Crutchley's whistle. This match will be brimful of interest, as each team is at full strength. Should Lakemba Congs. win, then the medals are theirs, but should they draw or lose then a deferred match will have to be played with Marrickville Pres. A. On paper Secretary Lockeridge's team should win.

* * *
Campsie Meth. A will have the advantage of the ground when they meet Botany Meth. A at Campsie to-day. The South Sydney team are a point in the lead, so Campsie Meth. will need to win outright. Botany Meth. A will be without the services of H. Warren, who is in the Coast Hospital with a broken leg. Last round the game resulted in a draw, and it is not thought that Campsie will improve on that result. Mr. Ref. Brydie will handle the game.

* * *
On Leichhardt Flat, St. Aidans A will be in a similar position to Botany Meth. A, as they have a point lead from All Souls. St. Aidans won 4—0 last round, and if they can keep their citadel intact to-day it will indeed be a popular victory, as the 'Dale team has been with us since the inception and have never yet received medals. Souls won last year. Mr. Ref. Bidmead will officiate.

* * *
It might be mentioned that in A Division two Congregational teams are fighting out the issue; in B Division two Methodist, and in C Division two Church of England teams.

St. Thomas A, Botany Meth. B, and St. Silas should have no difficulty in getting home.

K.O. Competition.

Entries for the knock-out competition close definitely on Tuesday next, 25th inst., at 7 p.m. Entrance fee, 10/—.

No competition will be run unless five entries are received. No team winning a 2nd grade premiership can enter a 2nd grade k.o. competition. Third grade teams may enter the 2nd grade k.o. competition.

Matches will commence on 29th inst.

Hilton Warren.

H. Warren, of Botany Methodist, had the misfortune to break his leg in the last five minutes of games last week. It was set on Tuesday at the Coast Hospital (Ward 18), and Hilton will appreciate any visitors who come along.

DRAW FOR SATURDAY, 29th AUGUST.

1st Grade.

St. Clements v Holy Trinity A, on Wardell Road No. 2, at 3.15.
Pymont Congs. v Drum. Bapt., Cooks River, 3.15.

2nd Grade.

Teams to be advised of venues.

3rd Grade, A Division.

St. Aidans B v St. Thomas A, Leichhardt Flat, 1.45.
Austens Juniors v M'kville Pres. B, Centen. Park No. 2, 3.15.
St. Bedes v Annandale Meth., on Wardell Road No. 1, 1.45.
St. Johns B v Rozelle Methodist, Centen. Park No. 1, 3.15.
Balmain Meth. v Lakemba Congs. B, Wardell Rd. No. 2, 1.45.

3rd Grade, B Division.

Campsie Meth. B v Croydon Congs. B, on Campsie, 3.15.
St. Thomas B v Botany Pres., on Centen. Park No. 1, 1.45.
Campsie Congs. v St. James, Botany No. 2, 3.15.

St. Silas v Hurlstone Park
Botany No. 2, 1.45.
Botany Meth. the bye.

RESULTS, SATURDAY AUGUST 8th.

Holy Trinity A beat Drum. Bapt. 8—0. It was no fault of theirs who played a great game for Drum. Bapt.

Marrickville Pres. A beat Campsie Congs. 17—0. Points to their already good players. Marrickville should pull themselves together, or they are striking trouble.

St. Silas must be out of all records, as they beat Campsie Congs. 17—0. They held their ground until the end when they fell to pieces.

Sorry to hear that St. Darlington, have had a draw at this late date in comp.

Your Hon. Secretary, Mr. Henry, after his arduous duties during the visit of the Fleet, is now recuperating at Kosciusko. Asst. Secretary R. A. Brydie is acting in his place.

GLADESVILLE v. BALMAIN

About 60 members and supporters of the Gladesville team travelled to the Coast on Friday, August 3rd, to see the diner Cup match. The weather was perfect, and the players enjoyed the sunshine after the unpleasant weather. They had an off day as far as the game was concerned, and played below form. The Balmain are to be commended for their win, and the boys of Gladesville wish them every success in their fight for the "coop." They hoped that another match would place before the season the reds would like to see their defeat. Mr. Bates was very satisfied to see his team and proved himself a good on and off the field.

This is how Association assists the nation: (1) Benefit to youth; (2) Benefit to the community; (3) Circulation.

OFF-SIDE QUERY.

The Athletic News."

member "The Athletic News" stated that a change in the law of Association was probable at the end of the season. There has been experiment and ferment in the past few months, but the forecast was proved wrong yesterday when the last step in the completion of a far-reaching amendment was taken by the Football Board at its meeting.

A familiarly known as the three scheme has been as anticipated, and the two defending players of three govern the law. An important change in the law has been made since it became the ruling past the winter, of the people. The law had stood since the last meeting from time to time alterations of smaller importance. Perhaps the most important amendment was the abolition of off-side play to the law in 1907.

The freedom of freedom is still on the attacking side, one to two for three—have been amended in the law.

Using the Grip.

The development of off-side play forced this change, but every reason to believe it was welcomed by the public. The system now adopted—play will proceed with interruptions. Off-side—a few years—seems likely to lose much of its prominence in the game though the problem will be to many a month of debate on the wisdom of the change begins.

There will be more plentiful danger is that they may become common and so lose their thrill and fascination.

The principal possibility of change is the release, to the effect of the stranglehold on play, with off-side and defensive tactics, had observed years on attack—defensive phase of play.

New Throw-In.

Law 10 has been put in order, so that a player taking a corner-kick may not touch the ball twice, and the throw-in has been amended by the substitution of the following sentence in Law 5:—

The player throwing the ball must stand with both feet on the ground outside the touch-line facing the field of play, and shall throw the ball in over his head with both hands in any direction....

THE STANDARD OF PLAY.

Coaches Should be Secured.

To the Editor.

Sir,—

Since you have invited expressions of opinion in the "Soccer News," I offer mine on the subject of the standard of play and the effect of tours thereon.

To my mind these tours are hardly worth the effort entailed; the organising and responsibility must be tremendously heavy on those men who undertake these ventures and with the code's difficulty in securing suitable grounds, it seems that everything is against them being a financial success. It has been said that the standard of play is almost certain to improve as a result of our men meeting such superior exponents as the Englishmen, but it must be remembered that a very, very small number of home players really do meet these champions on the field. A man is not going to improve at goal-getting by sitting in the grandstand or securing the autographs of Batten and his confreres, nor help Australia to victory by putting a souvenir photograph of the visitors in his bedroom. It is ridiculous to say, as has been said by a writer in a Sydney sporting paper that some of our players should retire to make room for others, and that our only hope lies with the juniors; I would agree with the latter part of the contention if it were added—providing they receive expert coaching—for can we expect a higher standard from juniors when they are under the same disadvantage as the seniors were and are? In my opinion the effect of tours upon our play generally is not far reaching enough, and the crying need is

for coaches, the same coaches who bring England's crack teams to perfection, not only to instruct the juniors, but to improve the senior grades.

I wonder how many of Mr. Lewis' party would have become star players under conditions governing Soccer in Australia today? Many of them probably would not have been heard of! Soccer is making a valiant effort to firmly establish the British game in this country, and is working under many disadvantages, not the least being the vexed question of the standard of play and its effect upon public patronage. If it were possible for all first grade clubs in the metropolis to combine for the purpose of securing an English professional coach, and other districts to do the same it would be the turning point of the game in Australia.

I am, yours faithfully,

R. McLAREN.

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL.

Rangers' Profit.

A GOOD DIVIDEND.

The annual general meeting of the Rangers Club will be held in the Trades Hall, Glasgow, on Wednesday next, when the report and financial statement will be submitted.

In the report the directors refer to the general play of the team during the past season as very gratifying. The League record for the past eight seasons is given, and it reads well. No mention is made of the Scottish Cup.

The brief statement of the finance department shows a profit on the season of £5169/9/9, which with the balance brought forward leaves a balance of £5540/15/2. It is proposed to place £2000 to reserve, to pay a dividend of 12½ per cent. free of income tax, and to carry forward £540/15/2.

Mr. James Bowie, who was co-opted to fill the vacancy on the directorate during the season, and Mr. Geo. W. Small are the retiring directors, and they offer themselves for re-election.

Season tickets for next season will be on sale at Ibrox Park on June 11th and 12th from 7 to 8.30 p.m. The price is 30/- (including tax).

M.S.F.A.**Gardiner Cup.**

Kurri Kurri v Eastern Suburbs,
Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2,
3.15.
Referee, W. Wright; Linesmen,
Messrs. Ashby and D. Brown.
Annandale-Leichhardt v Wallsend,
Tramway Ground, Newcastle.
Referee, Mr. Nicholson.

First Grade Premiership.

Canterbury v St. George, Canter-
bury Sports Ground, 3.15. Re-
feree, Mr. J. Lester; Linesmen,
Messrs. Cockwell and Smith.

Metropolitan-Illawarra Knock-out.

Gladesville-Ryde v Balmain, East-
on Park, 3.15. Referee, Mr.
A. W. Bates; Linesmen, Messrs.
H. Battin and Hopper.

Balgownie v Corrimal, Corrimal
Park, 3.15. Referee, Mr. C. R.
Brown.

Lincoln Cup (Second Grade).

Granville v Pyrmont, Ibrox Park,
3.15 (subject to Executive de-
cision).

Balmain v Canterbury, Easton Pk.,
1.45. Referee, Mr. Doidge.

Sunlight Cup.

Alexandria v Sunlight, Sydney
Cricket Ground No. 2, 1.45. Re-
feree, Mr. McGrath.

Results of Last Week's Games.**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.**

West Wallsend defeated Balmain
3—0.

1st Grade.

Gladesville-Ryde defeated Annan-
dale-Leichhardt 4—0.

Metropolitan-Illawarra Knock-out
Corrimal defeated Canterbury 3
—2.

Granville defeated Pyrmont 4—1.
Eastern Suburbs defeated St.
George 5—1.

Lincoln Cup Knock-out.

Gladesville-Ryde v Annandale-
Leichhardt 2—0.

Eastern Suburbs defeated St.
George 4—0.

Pyrmont forfeited to Granville.

Sunlight Cup.

Auburn beat Lane Cove 4—2.

Semi-Final.

Sunlight v Botany Albions 4—1.

THE DISTRICT CLUB GATES.

Statement of Gate Receipts to August 1st, 1925.

GROSS GATES.

	£	s.	d.	£
Ibrox Park (15 games)	283	16	10	
Granville (6 games)	243	16	0	
Sydney Cricket Ground (6 games) . .	197	19	6	
Canterbury (8 games)	116	11	0	
Easton Park (11 games)	96	9	3	
St. George (4 games)	73	3	6	
Waverley (2 games)	10	0	0	
R. A. Show Ground (1 game)	30	7	3	
				1052
Less Ground Rents	366	2	6	
Referees' Fees	38	17	6	
Advertising	22	9	6	
Wages and Tax	62	5	5	
				489
Net Gates for Distribution				562

ALLOCATION OF NET GATES.

	£	s.	d.	£
M.S.F.A.	193	1	0	
Granville	115	5	2	
Annandale-Leichhardt	50	2	5	
Canterbury	41	17	3	
Gladesville-Ryde	40	13	2	
Pyrmont	37	13	4	
Balmain	31	2	6	
St. George	30	12	1	
Eastern Suburbs	22	1	6	
				562

CANBERRA BURNS CLUB.

The above club, as will be seen by the following letter, are very keen to arrange a game in Sydney. Club Secretaries interested are asked to ring Mr. S. Storey ('Phone, Wah. 1175).

Canberra,
August 12th, 1925.

Mr. S. A. Storey.
Dear Sir,—

On behalf of the above club I hereby ask if you could arrange a match for us with a good strong team in Sydney for Saturday, 29th inst., or 5th September.

We have a strong team here. The club has been in existence for two seasons, and are undefeated. For the last five matches the aggregate is 28 goals for and 5 against, the last game being against Cronulla, whom we defeated 9 goals to one; at the end of last season we defeated a representative team at Goulburn 2—1.

Would you please let me know by return if you can oblige.

Also in the event of us going to Sydney, could we be given any of gate towards expenses? They are very heavy?

Yours truly,

WALTER SCOTT

SUSPENDED PLAYERS.

The Protests and Disputations Committee of the M.S.F.A. report that the following players are automatically suspended until such time as they appear before the committee:—

J. Stewart, Treasurer of main Colliery, suspended holding any post in the club undertaking any official duties.
F. W. Thacker, of Bankstown.
R. Adams, of Bankstown.
D. Richardson, of Balmain liery.

Lee, of Rangers.

Latimer, of Annandale.

These players must not appear when they intend appearing before the Committee. Richardson must give seven days clear notice.